



Costa Rica

In 2012-2013, 8,497 U.S. students studied abroad in Costa Rica for academic credit.

[**<<Learn more about Costa Rica>>**](#)

Education System Overview:

- **Academic year:** February – December
- **Major school holidays/break:**
 - December 1 – January 31
 - July 1 – July 19
 - September 2 – September 20

Structure of the university system:

- **Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree:** 5 years at a public university and 4 years at a private university
- **The language of instruction in universities:** Spanish
- **Degrees offered:** Bachelors, Masters and Doctorate

Resources:

Organization: Ministerio de Education Publica de Costa Rica
Website: <http://www.mep.go.cr>

Organization: Consejo Superior de Educacion
Website: <http://www.mep.go.cr/CSE/index.aspx>

Know Before You Go

- [How to Apply for U.S. Passport](#)
- [Security Messages for U.S. Citizens](#)
- [Country Specific Travel Information](#)



U.S. Government-Sponsored Study and Exchange Programs

- **Fulbright U.S. Student Program**
- **Gilman International Scholarship**
- **Fulbright-Hays Program**